

family matters

Intentional Training – Ephesians 6:1-4

*“Train up a child in the way he should go,
even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

Proverbs 22:6

Training for Children (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Two training ties:

1. _____ your parents.

Obedience means “doing what someone says, right away, without being reminded”
(Turansky & Miller).

2. _____ your parents (see Deut. 5:16).

Honor goes beyond obedience. Obedience is the action; Honor is the heart attitude behind it.

Two motivations:

1. It’s _____.
2. It’s for your _____.

“We must obey God rather than men.”
Acts 5:29

Training for Parents (Ephesians 6:4)

Two training ties:

1. Don’t _____ your children.
2. Instead, _____ them.

Two forms of training:

1. _____ directing them to God

Doing Discipline like God

“For those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines...”
Hebrews 12:6

- With dignity instead of disrespect
- Redemptive rather than punitive
- Allowing natural consequences over protection
- Responsive rather than reactive
- Out of love, not anger
- Celebrating progress over perfection

2. _____ in the Lord

Honor makes maturity possible.

My response:

Family Matters: Intentional Training

Sermon on October 22, 2023

Ephesians 6:1-4

**While this scripture focuses on the relationship of Children & Parents, remind your group that these principles are transcendent to many of our relationships.*

Getting to Know Me

1. What TV or movie family best reflects your family now or family of origin? What aspects are similar or different?
2. How do you think your parents looked upon you as a child or teenager (a troublemaker, helpless, invisible, a liability, a continuation of themselves, their pride and joy...)? How did this perception affect the way you behaved or thought of yourself?

Digging Deeper

3. What new insight or information challenged or encouraged you from Pastor Phil's message this past Sunday?
4. Read Ephesians 6:1-3. How did Phil (or how do you) define "honor" and "obedience" and which is more challenging for you? What do you think he meant when he said that sometimes honor may be reduced to 'honoring the office' of a parent or authority?
5. Read Ephesians 5:21. If you adopted this as one of your guiding life verses, what impact might it have on how you view authorities in your life?
6. Where are you in your life regarding parents and children? If you don't have any children or if your children are grown, how do these scriptures speak to you? If your children are still in your home, what challenges you most from Ephesians 6:1-4?

7. Read Proverbs 22:6, Hebrews 12:6, and Ephesians 6:4. How do these verses work together? How do we discipline or train up without exasperating?

8. Phil gave 6 realities of God's approach to discipline:

- Dignity instead of disrespect
- Redemptive rather than punitive
- Natural consequences over protection
- Responsive rather than reactive
- Out of love, not anger
- Celebrate progress, not perfection

What do these look like in real time? Which is easiest and which is most difficult for you as a parent/grandparent/mentor...?

Where Do I Go from Here?

9. If you are a parent or grandparent, what is your primary goal as you train up your children? What does Phil's statement, "Honor makes maturity possible" mean in your relationships?
10. Where do you need to grow as a parent/authority figure? As a child/one under authority? What steps will you take this week to improve your relationships with your parents and/or children?
11. Consider Sunday's closing question: *If your spiritual progress were to be judged only on how you treat others at home, what would this reveal about your relationship with Jesus?*

Prayer: Lord, help us raise our children in Your ways. Show me where I need to grow."

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*“Train up a child in the way he should go,
even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

Proverbs 22:6

Training for Children (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Two training ties:

1. Obey your parents.

Obedience means “doing what someone says, right away, without being reminded”
(Turansky & Miller).

2. Honor your parents (see Deuteronomy 5:16).

Honor goes beyond obedience. Obedience is the action; Honor is the heart attitude behind it.

Two motivations:

1. It’s right.
2. It’s for your best.

“We must obey God rather than men.”
Acts 5:29

Training for Parents (Ephesians 6:4)

Two training ties:

1. Don’t provoke your children.
2. Instead, nurture them.

Two forms of training:

1. Discipline directing them to God

Doing Discipline like God

“For those whom the Lord loves, he disciplines...”
Hebrews 12:6

- With dignity instead of disrespect
- Redemptive rather than punitive
- Allowing natural consequences over protection
- Responsive rather than reactive
- Out of love, not anger
- Celebrate progress over perfection

2. Instruction in the Lord

Honor makes maturity possible.

My response: